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DAN SMOOT

RACE WARS, U.S.A. - PART VIII

The mayor of Newark, New Jersey — Hugh J. Addonizio — is a liberal who, in his efforts to please Negroes, almost bankrupted Newark,[1] in addition to spending vast sums of tax money provided by Washington.

Welfare spending in Newark increased 400% from 1941 to 1963.[2] By July, 1967, Newark was spending about $450,000 a month on welfare, and 90% of the recipients were Negroes. Negroes have nearly half of all city jobs, including such high positions as president of the board of education, budget director, health and welfare director, chairman of the planning board, high court judge. About 400 of the 1400 Newark policemen are Negroes. Two of its city councilmen are Negroes.[3]

From the federal government, Newark is getting the highest per capita grants of tax money for urban renewal of all big cities ($277 per person). The Johnson administration and Congress have given Newark $25 million for antipoverty programs in the past 3 years. Just as the 1967 summer began, two new projects were approved: $4.3 million for job training to unemployed; $275,000 to turn 50 streets into playgrounds.[3]

Yet, Newark became, in July, 1967, the place where the *second major* Negro riot of our time occurred (Watts being first in 1965). After the riot, Negro civil-rights leaders blamed, not those who murdered, burned, and pillaged, but the Newark city government for "terrible treatment" of Negroes.

Dr. Nathan Wright (community relations adviser to the Newark Episcopal Diocese, the man who organized the black power conference held in Newark immediately following the 1967 riot) cited two examples of mistreatment which goaded Newark Negroes to riot: (1) Mayor Addonizio tried to locate a new medical school in the Negro district, (2) the mayor appointed a white instead of a Negro as secretary of the board of education. Commenting on these two incidents and their relationship with the bloody Newark riot, Dr. Wright said:

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"When the mayor flayed the Negro community so terribly, the people were like a caged lion, wounded deeply."[4]

Mayor Addonizio joined the lament raised by his critics, that not enough had been done for the poor in Newark, though he did not, of course, blame himself. He blamed "middle-class Americans" whom he accuses of having no interest in saving the nation's cities, saying:

"Affluent Americans are gripped more by the need to buy a vacation home, a sports car for their college-bound son, and a second color television set than they are with sharing their affluence with the poor."[5]

Americans are, as the mayor indicates, too materialistic: liberals (like Addonizio) have led them away from many fine American traditions. Yet, middle-class Americans still share "their affluence with the poor" — more generously than any other people on earth do or have ever done. Productive Americans voluntarily give billions a year to people and institutions all over the world, supporting the poor, churches, schools, colleges, hospitals, art, music, science, research, Heart Funds, United Funds, Red Cross. All of this in addition to billions which government confiscates from them for aid and handouts everywhere!

Robert Gore — black-power leader whom Stewart Alsop describes as "a kindly-mannered, likable Negro intellectual with a full beard" — said:

"Whitey's gonna come into Newark and Detroit and the rest and try to bribe us by building a lot more public housing, and we'll burn it right down again. Where do you think those cats in the streets in Newark came out of? Right out of public housing."[6]

The principal moral which Alsop draws from this and comparable remarks by black-power leaders is that such talk coupled with Negro violence has created so much white resentment that "the white leadership in this country has a deep responsibility to control, if necessary by force, the growing minority of whites who are beginning to talk and think like Kluxers."[6]

The *third major* Negro riot in modern times occurred in Detroit, July 23-30, 1967.

In 1966, Detroit won the All-America City Contest (sponsored by the National Municipal League) for three reasons, one of them being "progress in racial harmony."[12] Before the July, 1967, riot, more than $250 million had been spent on urban renewal and projects for the poor in Detroit; and federal officials considered the city's antipoverty program a model for the nation.[11]

Detroit's mayor, James P. Cavanagh, a liberal elected in 1961 and 1965 because of Negro support, has panhandled Washington, more successfully than any other mayor, for tax money to "fight poverty."

In Detroit — known as among the best cities in the North for Negroes[7] — there is no large, exclusively black district. Negroes of all income groups are scattered through the city, mixed with whites. About 40% of the city's Negro families own their own homes.[8] Detroit is the only city that has 2 Negro representatives in the U.S. Congress.

There were 28 redevelopment programs under way in Detroit, which will cost at least 180 million tax dollars.[9] Cavanagh has cadged some $42 million from federal bureaucrats for his poverty war.[8] In 1967 alone, he budgeted 27 million tax dollars to fight poverty in Detroit with great-society claptrap such as neighborhood youth corps, youth employment centers, and so on[10] (though, in the same budget, he said the city could not afford pay raises for police[9]).

Many Negro rioters in Detroit had good jobs; and about half of those arrested had criminal records. Late-model cars (including at least one 1967 Cadillac) were used for hauling off stolen goods.

Senator Thomas Kuchel (California Republican) excused Detroit rioters, claiming the riot was caused by "abject poverty aggravated by a heat wave."[13]

Detroit's Episcopal Bishop Emrich said:

"By God's grace, we will be able to say this was our finest hour. This riot was really a cry for help. It takes a great soul to see that."[13]

A month after the Detroit riot, a group of 400 black militants (calling themselves the New Black

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Establishment Committee) served notice on the city government, saying that if destroyed sections of Detroit are to be rebuilt, the black militants "will tell Cavanagh, Romney, and LBJ what we want done." What they want is rebuilding at taxpayers' expense, with absolute control over everything in the rebuilt area (including schools, stores, and so on) given to them.[14]

On the night of August 20, 1967, Negroes in New Haven, Connecticut, went on a three-day rampage of rioting, firebombing, and looting. New Haven was nationally recognized as a model city because of all it had done for Negroes.[15]

If anything has been proven by Negro riots it is that spending of tax money and enactment of civil rights laws for the special benefit of Negroes increase rather than decrease Negro mob violence. Indeed, the easy availability of welfare is one cause for the piling up of Negroes in big cities where they become not only angry mobs but voting blocs for politicians promising more handouts of tax money.

The 1967 riots spurred liberals faster in the wrong direction.

Before the Detroit riot ended, Governor George Romney was urging vast new spending programs for Negroes and new legislation to force whites to do the will of Negroes.

On August 2, 1967, Vice President Hubert Humphrey proposed a "Marshall Plan" for cities. Whitney Young, Jr., director of the Urban League (oldest of the Negro agitation groups) has also proposed a Marshall Plan for cities.[16] The fact is that the amount of tax money which the federal government has poured into American cities even exceeds the fantastic sums it has squandered on the foreign aid program (originally known as the Marshall Plan).

Details of a new Marshall Plan for cities were outlined by Bayard Rustin in 1966, though Rustin called the scheme "Freedom Budget." Rustin is a known Negro sex-deviate, communist-fronter, and onetime close associate of Martin Luther King. He is now director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, a tax-exempt organization named after the socialist Negro civil-rights leader who is head of the Sleeping Car Porters Union. Rustin's Freedom Budget would require federal expenditure of 185 billion tax dollars in the next 10 years to socialize the economy of the nation and achieve "freedom from want." This scheme is enthusiastically endorsed not only by the Communist Party, but also by what communists call "a veritable Who's Who in the labor and Negro people's movements."[17]

Humphrey's Marshall Plan recommendation irritated President Johnson, because the President was then preparing a request for Congress to impose a 10% tax surcharge.[18] Open talk about new multi-billion dollar spending for the benefit of those burning down our cities, at the very time when he was planning to increase the tax burden on productive workers, seemed politically unwise to the President.

On August 8, 1967, Senator Abraham Ribicoff (Connecticut Democrat) and Senator Charles H. Percy (Illinois Republican) said the President should immediately send $1.1 billion in emergency aid to riot-threatened cities, suggesting that the President be given authority to take tax money as he pleases from other programs for which Congress appropriated it.[19] Senator Thruston B. Morton (Kentucky Republican) said some of the emergency funds could be used to provide jobs for young Negroes, especially those with criminal records, to keep them from leading riots.[19]

On August 10, 8 Republican governors met in New York and decided that Negro riots occur because the federal government is "not providing financial resources on a scale commensurate with the dimensions of the problem." Nelson Rockefeller called the conference. The others who attended were George Romney of Michigan, John Love of Colorado, Spire T. Agnew of Maryland, John H. Chafee of Rhode Island, Raymond P. Shafer of Pennsylvania, Niles A. Boe of South Dakota, John A. Volpe of Massachusetts.[20]

Volpe's statement to the press rather well typified the attitude of the 8 Republican governors:

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"People don't riot when they have good homes, food in their bellies, and good jobs."[20]

That is false. In major riots, Negroes with good jobs and good homes and with plenty of food, not to mention booze and beer, participated to about the same degree as poor, jobless Negroes. It is not poor Negroes, but middle-class Negroes with enough income to travel all over the United States (or the world) urging Negroes to demand more of whites, who incite Negroes to such hatred that riots occur, though most of these well-fed provocateurs remain safely away from the violence.

On August 15, 1967, the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower and Poverty approved Johnson's anti-poverty bill (S 1545), after *increasing* the President's request for the Office of Economic Opportunity by $148 million and authorizing a new $3-billion program to create jobs in slums.[21] At a time when it was positively known that our tax money is being used by the Office of Economic Opportunity to organize and subsidize Negro mob violence![22]

Congressional efforts to *increase* his requests for antipoverty funds displeased Johnson, because Johnson is secretly preparing his own recommendation for new multi-billion-dollar expenditures for the benefit of the poor. He wants all the credit for making the recommendations, and does not want to make them until 1968 when they will buy the most political mileage for him and his party.[23]

What Johnson wants for 1967 is congressional approval of the programs he has already recommended — including rent supplements, model cities, teachers' corps, and so on.

By August 18, 1967, Congress had begun to lie down and roll over to Johnson's satisfaction. The President pointed out that of some 100 anti-poverty measures he had requested, about half had already been approved in Congress. He expressed confidence that all would be approved by the end of the session.[24]

On August 23, 1967, U. S. Representative John Conyers, Jr. (Negro Democrat who represents one of the congressional districts in Detroit) addressed 1000 delegates to the AFL-CIO American Federation of Teachers Convention. Conyers urged a $30 billion-a-year federal program of aid to slums (in addition to all else presently being done) to keep Negroes from rioting.

Conyers warned that Negroes are angry enough to attempt to destroy America—and the teachers cheered him loudly.[25]

NEXT WEEK: More on the race wars.

FOOTNOTES

(1) *U.S. News & World Report*, Aug. 7, 1967, p. 19
(2) Editorial, *The Dallas Morning News*, Aug. 23, 1967, p. D2
(3) *U.S. News & World Report*, July 31, 1967, pp. 30-1
(4) AP dispatch from Newark, July 16, 1967
(5) Article by John Herbers, *The Dallas Morning News*, Aug. 23, 1967, p. A1
(6) Article by Stewart Alsop, *The Saturday Evening Post*, Sept. 9, 1967, p. 14
(7) *U.S. News & World Report*, Aug. 7, 1967, pp. 23-7
(8) *Time* magazine, Aug. 4, 1967, pp. 13-8
(9) *U.S. News & World Report*, Aug. 7, 1967, p. 16
(10) *Time* magazine, July 28, 1967, pp. 10-15
(11) *Life*, Aug. 4, 1967, p. 24
(12) Article by Dick Hitt, *The Dallas Times Herald*, Aug. 14, 1967, p. A12
(13) Article by George N. Crocker, Los Angeles *Herald-Examiner*, Aug. 15, 1967
(14) Editorial, *The Dallas Morning News*, Aug. 23, 1967, p. D2
(15) AP dispatch from New Haven, Aug. 21, 1967
(16) UPI dispatch from New York, Aug. 17, 1967
(17) *Negro-White Unity*, by Henry Winston (Negro official of the Communist Party), published 1967 by New Outlook Publishers, 32 Union Sq. E., New York, N. Y. 10003
(18) AP dispatch from New York, Aug. 22, 1967
(19) AP dispatch from Washington, Aug. 8, 1967; AP dispatch from Washington, Aug. 9, 1967
(20) *The Oregonian*, Aug. 11, 1967, Sec. 4M, p. 11
(21) *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*, Aug. 25, 1967, p. 1655
(22) "Poverty Warriors," *Barron's*, July 31, 1967
(23) UPI dispatch from Washington, Aug. 25, 1967
(24) Article by Karen Klinefelter, *The Dallas Morning News*, Aug. 19, 1967, p. A5
(25) AP dispatch from Washington, Aug. 23, 1967

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